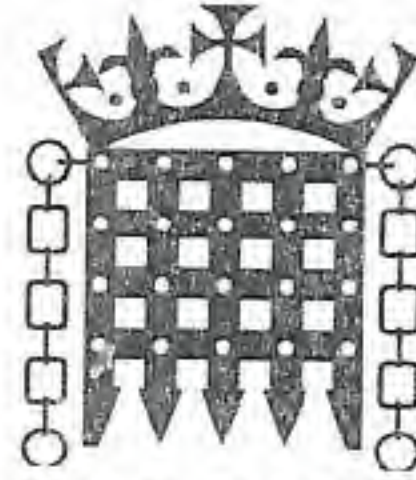


Rt Hon Keith Vaz MP
Chairman, Home Affairs Committee

Ref:CEOKE7/Saldanha/TF



HOUSE OF COMMONS

LONDON SW1A 0AA

John Lofthouse
Chief Executive
King Edward VII's Hospital
Beaumont Street
London
W1G 6AA

12th December 2012

Dear Mr Lofthouse

The late Jacintha Saldanha

It was good to talk to you yesterday and I was glad to have been able to facilitate a meeting between yourself and the family of Jacintha. I am sorry I could not have been present at the meeting due to Parliamentary commitments.

At the meeting you kindly offered bereavement counselling in Bristol. The family will take up this offer and will ring matron to set this up immediately.

I thought you would like to know what the Prime Minister said yesterday of Jacintha's case:

"This was a dreadful case, it was an absolute tragedy for the family. When you read of how hard she had worked across her life and all the things that she had done, and how much she cared about health and looking after people, it's a terrible, terrible case and as I said yesterday, I'm sure there are lessons to learn. I think when these things happen, having the full facts of the case, it doesn't bring anyone back but I think it does help people come to terms with what has happened."

I have dealt with similar cases in the past and I would agree with the Prime Minister that the family need to get the full facts, from the time she took the call from 2 Day FM to the time she was found in her accommodation.

The family gave you a list of questions that they wish the hospital to answer so that they can have the full facts of the case. I know they would appreciate answers to their questions in writing as soon as possible. They may also have additional questions.

I understand that you have an ongoing internal inquiry. I would be most grateful if you could let me know who is conducting the inquiry and when the family will receive a copy of the inquiry's findings.

Finally, I and they are most grateful to the hospital for swiftly setting up the Memorial Fund in Jacintha's name. This was a kind gesture. I know that many people will want to contribute to it.

I look forward to hearing from you.

*With every good wish
Yours sincerely
Keith Vaz*

Rt Hon Keith Vaz MP